

**As Reported by the House Transportation and Public Safety  
Committee**

**133rd General Assembly**

**Regular Session  
2019-2020**

**Am. H. C. R. No. 14**

**Representatives Sheehy, Rogers**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Ghanbari, Miller, J., Crossman, Riedel, Hoops,  
Smith, K., Skindell, Patterson, SobECKi, Strahorn, Swearingen, Blair, Miller, A.,  
Lepore-Hagan, Seitz, Weinstein, Green, Brent, Manning, G., O'Brien**

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**A C O N C U R R E N T R E S O L U T I O N**

To designate September 7, 2020, as Great Lakes-St.  
Lawrence Appreciation Day.

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**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF  
OHIO (THE SENATE CONCURRING):**

WHEREAS, The Great Lakes system, which includes Lake Erie,  
Lake Huron, Lake Ontario, Lake Michigan, Lake Superior, and the  
St. Lawrence River, is a globally significant resource and  
ecosystem, holding 21 per cent of the world's surface  
freshwater; and

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WHEREAS, The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River provide  
drinking water to more than 48 million Americans and Canadians  
and supply 56 billion gallons of water per day for municipal,  
agricultural, and industrial use; and

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WHEREAS, On September 7, 2012, by signing a revised Great  
Lakes Water Quality Agreement, the United States and Canada  
reaffirmed their commitment to binational cooperation "to  
restore, protect, and enhance the water quality of the Great  
Lakes to promote the ecological health of the Great Lakes

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basin"; and 17

WHEREAS, An abundant supply of clean, affordable water is 18  
essential to support a healthy population, a thriving economy, 19  
and a well-functioning ecosystem. As the major source of water 20  
for communities located within the Great Lakes basin, the Great 21  
Lakes system is a vital resource in which all the region's 22  
residents share a common interest; and 23

WHEREAS, The Great Lakes system is an economic powerhouse 24  
for the region, supporting industries such as shipping, 25  
agriculture, technology, manufacturing, recreation, and tourism; 26  
and 27

WHEREAS, The waters and shoreline of the Great Lakes system 28  
provide exceptional habitat for thousands of species of native 29  
mammals, birds, amphibians, fish, and plants; and 30

WHEREAS, The Great Lakes basin is home to numerous beaches, 31  
parks, forests, harbors, marinas, piers, lighthouses, 32  
boardwalks, and islands that provide recreational opportunities 33  
for swimming, hiking, surfing, boating, kayaking, canoeing, 34  
fishing, hunting, photography, wildlife watching, and more; and 35

WHEREAS, Ohio's 312-mile stretch of Lake Erie shoreline is 36  
among the state's most valuable natural resources and an 37  
essential element in Ohio's economic development strategy. 38  
Visitors to Ohio's Lake Erie region annually spend billions of 39  
dollars that generate a significant amount in state and local 40  
taxes. Lake Erie attracts an estimated 1.5 million anglers and 41  
hunters who spend \$2 billion annually, supports a recreational 42  
boating industry that supports more than 19,500 jobs with an 43  
economic impact of \$3.6 billion annually, provides drinking 44  
water for 3 million Ohio residents, and allows for a maritime 45  
economy in Ohio that is responsible for more than \$2 billion of 46  
GDP annually, with more than \$1 billion in wages and tens of 47

thousands of jobs; and	48
WHEREAS, People greatly value the opportunity to live,	49
work, and play in areas near waters that are vibrant, beautiful,	50
and life-sustaining; and	51
WHEREAS, The region's environment, economy, and people rely	52
on the clean, healthy waters of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence	53
River; therefore be it	54
RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 133rd General	55
Assembly of the State of Ohio, designate September 7, 2020, as	56
Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Appreciation Day; and be it further	57
RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives	58
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the	59
Governor and the news media of Ohio.	60